

-Please cancel claims 1 through 20 in this application without prejudice nor disclaimer as to the subject matter contained therein.

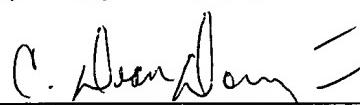
**REMARKS**

Applicant respectfully submits this Preliminary Amendment . This Continuation Application continues from my Original Application that was filed on 30 April 1999, serial No. 09/303,201. A Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due was mailed by the Patent Office on 7 May 2001, and the Issue Fee is due on 7 August 2001 for said Original Application.

Therefore, pursuant to this Preliminary Amendment, there is presently pending in this Continuation Application Claims 21 through 37. Claims 1 through 20 in this application have been cancelled without prejudice nor disclaimer as to the subject matter contained therein. If it would aid in disposition of this matter, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned. Allowance of these claims at an early date is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

3-July-2001  
Date

  
C. Dean Domingue, Reg. No. 33,682  
Domingue & Waddell, PLC  
FNB Towers  
600 Jefferson Street, Ste. 515  
Lafayette, Louisiana 70501  
Phone 337.266.2304